

Kenfington, May 21. 1706.

*Captain Pitt, Aid de Camp to the Duke of Marlborough, arrived here this Day from Brabant, being sent Express by his Grace with the following Account of further Glorious Progresses wherewith it has pleased Almighty God to bless the Arms of Her Majesty and Her Allies, under the Command of his Grace and Monsieur d'Auverquerque.*

Published by Authority.

*From the Duke of Marlborough's Camp at Grimbergh, May 27. N. S.*

ON Monday the 24th Instant my Lord Duke of Marlborough having ordered the Army to encamp at Bavechien, for the Refreshment of the Troops, and disposed all things for their March the next Morning by break of Day, in order to force the Passage of the Dyle, received Advice in the Night, that the Enemy had quitted their Camp, and abandoned Louvain, being retired towards Brussels; whereupon Bridges being laid over that River near Louvain, we put a Detachment of 500 Men into the Town last mentioned, and the whole Army passed over the next Day about Noon, and took the Camp of Bethlem; from whence we continued our March early yesterday Morning towards Brussels. His Grace soon had Notice that the Enemy had likewise quitted that Place and Mechlen, and were retired towards Aloft. About 10 a Clock my Lord Duke had a Letter from the Marquis of Deinsle, Governor of Brussels, intimating that the States of Brabant were desirous to wait on him at such time as he should appoint; upon which his Grace sent them a Compliment by Colonel Panon, in his own Name and that of the Deputies, letting them know, That he should be glad to see them at 4 a Clock in the Afternoon; when there came a Deputation from the States of Brabant, another from the Sovereign Council, and a third from the Magistrates of the City. They all expressed great Satisfaction at our happy Success, and our Arrival in their Neighbourhood. His Grace has writ Letters to all the Three Bodies, to invite them to consider their own Interest, and to own their lawful Sovereign King Charles the Third. They were to assemble in order to it this Day; and in the Afternoon his Grace expects their Return, with a favourable Answer. In the Evening the Magistrates of Mechlen came likewise to compliment his Grace, and make their Submission. Colonel Durell, Adjutant-General, was sent with a Detachment of 200 Horse to take Possession of that Town.

The Governor staid in the Place, and surrendered himself Prisoner. The Army encamped at Dighem.

This Morning the Army continued its March, and having passed the Canal, came to Grimbergh, where we are now encamped.

My Lord Duke has sent General Churchill with 4 Battalions of Foot and two Squadrons of Horse to command in Brussels.

The Retreat of the Enemy in such Consternation, the great Number of Officers and Soldiers who have since been discovered to be Prisoners among our Troops, and of those who were left wounded in the Places through which we marched, together with their abandoning the whole Country, makes their Loss much greater than it was at first thought to be.

By our speedy Pursuit of the Enemy they were obliged to leave many wounded Officers at Brussels, who all became Prisoners of War; among others, the Count de Horne, Lieutenant-General, and the Earl of Clare, Major-General: The latter died yesterday of his Wounds.

*From the Duke of Marlborough's Camp at Grimbergh, May 28. N. S.* Yesterday in the Evening the Deputies who were at the Camp the Day before returned, and brought his Grace Three several Instruments in due Form; one from the Three States, another from the Sovereign Council, and the third from the City of Brussels, owning King Charles III. as their lawful Sovereign; repeating likewise in a most respectful manner the great Sense they have of Her Majesty's Goodness, in relieving them by Her victorious Arms from the Oppressions they have so long laboured under by the French Government: They likewise made their Acknowledgements to his Grace and there seems to be an universal Joy among the People. We have great Reason to hope the Spanish Troops will likewise declare for their natural Sovereign, since several of them have shewn a great Inclination for the House of Austria; and that the Animosities between them and the French are grown to such a height, that it seems impossible they should act any longer in Conjunction.

Captain Pitt adds, That just at his coming away the Magistracy of Lier had sent a Deputation to my Lord Duke, to make their Submission, and desire his Grace's Protection: That the City of Antwerp had likewise declared for King Charles III. the French having quitted that Place on Friday, at 3 in the Afternoon; and that, in a word, all Brabant was entirely reduced under his Catholick Majesty's Obedience. The French were retired to Gaver, beyond Ghent, not above 23000 strong, and those not half of 'em armed, having thrown down their Arms in their Flight. The Prisoners being sent away to our Garisons as fast as we took them, an Account cannot yet be given of their Numbers, which must be very considerable. The Duke of Marlborough had appointed a Day of Thanksgiving to be observed throughout the Army, to return Thanks to Almighty God for the Glorious Victory wherewith Heaven had blessed the Army of Her Majesty and the States General in the late Battle of Rammelies, and the wonderful Successes which have since followed, in reducing so great a Country to the Obedience of his Catholick Majesty King Charles the Third.